

A Page of Fashion News--By Mme. Judice.



THIS Winter's Dancing Frocks Are to Be Very Bouffant. They Are Trimmed with Many Flounces and Ruchings of the Same Material—The Redingote of Taffeta Is Revived to Do Service for Carriage or Theatre Wear—Dolman Wraps Are the Latest Creations—Gilt Is All the Rage—Brown, with Orange or Blue and Pearl Gray and Cream, Are the Most Recent Color Combinations—Other Interesting Fashion Developments.

THE woman of 1904 will be pleasing, for there has perhaps never been a stronger plea for feminine than woman's present independence in fashions. Everything is done nowadays for feminine charm, and in line with this idea are the dressy and fluffy styles shown in all the new models. There are frills and flounces, puffs and pipings and pendants and capes and oversleeves and undersleeves, slashes with long ends or short ends and deep crush girdles boned to the figure which show no such ends at all.

While we are in the full glory of the revived 1830 modes, some designers have moved the calendar along a bit and have included many little hints and ideas which more properly belong to the sixties; particularly is this noticeable in the materials and trimmings of reception frocks. In the making of these gowns a great amount of hand work is displayed, not only in regard to the garnitures, but the manipulation of the materials in the running of tucks or shirring with incrustations of lace and embroideries.

THE dancing or evening skirt promises to be very bouffant, but this is not yet determined. Several very short full cotton gowns have recently come from Paris. But as these tend to make the wearer look short and dumpy, it is certain they will not be popular with all women. These short, cotton frocks are trimmed with many flounces and ruchings of the same material as the gown, reaching above the knees and frequently to the waist and are almost exact reproductions of the family portraits of belles of 1860. From Paris also comes a very short full cotton gown, with a high collar and light-fitting, and will tend to give a woman height, slenderness and willowiness and an absence of all that suggests embonpoint. This shows very conclusively that skirts will be of two kinds. They will probably not gather the short, full skirt upon the band, as predicted a short while ago, but will shirr them in many shirrings and puffings or tuck them in Spanish style, running low in the front and rising toward the back, while the skirt is finished with a bouffant effect around the foot.

plain and ivory cloth are combined in elegant but moderately priced cloaks. Heavy cords and gumpes form the pendulous buttons, whose swinging ends appear on many wraps of a dressy nature. These dolman cloaks, because of their extreme looseness, are much favored by young matrons. A swansdown fuzziness is the first impression of many of the newest scarfs with which beauty envelopes her head and throat with these evening cloaks. All who can go bareheaded wear these gauze and marabout scarfs without crushing the costume or disarranging the coiffure.

NATURALLY with such fine wraps, gowns for evening wear are correspondingly elegant. Many white costumes are fashioned of clinging cloth or velvet, introducing somewhere in the trimming a thread of pale blue, coral or orange. A pale-blue gown may be trimmed with pinks or lace in the same shade, but a touch of black and white will be added as well, for this snappy French touch is as much used as ever. One-toned gowns may have white vests and under sleeves, and upon these lacy details biases and ornaments of the cloth are often transferred. One extremely beautiful importation is of painted net, against whose grayish-white background appeared the shadows of leaves in autumnal colorings. Inside the slightly cut-out neck of the bodice was a tiny gump of plain gathered net, which material also formed large puffed under sleeves. The full, drifting skirt had three deep rucks and was to be worn over a silk petticoat in a singular blue. This blue showed openly in a wide girdle and bodice knots—a shade sublime with the bronze and silver reflections. The distinguishing feature of the dress of the woman of 1904 will be the color scheme of her costume. The sombre shaded tones will form the background upon which are built up all the beautiful color harmonies that complete her dress. Quaint and changeable browns trimmed with orange and blue will only afford a more striking background to the dash of red which will be seen on many costumes. Shadow blue—strange blue, almost as deep as ink—will have bands of cherry velvet, with red coral trimmings on her stock, belt and hat.

MISS GERRY wears a charming sympathy of dress and hat, the former a pale putnia, and the latter of several of the darkest tints, varying from grayish purple through the fuchsia and old rose shade. At a Waldorf recital last week some body wore a cloth gown of pale blue, almost a cream tint, combined with more cloth of a delicate pearl gray. A year ago the woman wore those two in conjunction would have been deemed stark mad.

NOW that it is the fashion to wear the lightest and most perishable shades for street and day gowns, the dolman wrap has come forth that the stunner things to don are dark colors.

"Open Season" for Shoplifters. To the Editor of The Evening World: This is the "open season" for shoplifters. Scarcely a day passes that some one (a member of my own sex usually, I regret to say) does not commit a petty theft in some large store. I suggest (two things for this: First—Let goods be protected by a glass case and not let loose on counters, a temptation to all weak-conscience women. Second—Let storekeepers punish every case of theft by dragging offenders into open court and prosecuting every case to the limit of the law. They are too lenient, and thieves rely on such leniency to dare thefts from which they would shrink were there less peril of public shame. MRS. J. L. WARUM.

in the evening. Cloth dresses for evening are quite original and often becoming when brightened up with gold and silver embroideries and bits of real lace. A leading modiste is using on them a great deal of blond lace applied with silver. Just as we are beginning to wear the collarless gowns with ease along comes the high collar for our day gowns. The new ones come right up under the ear and require the most careful cutting, fitting and—booming. Neatness is the order of the day in regard to neckwear, and charming are the new linen Prussian high collars with a dainty embroidered edge. These are worn with a muslin cravat and are a chic finish to a morning toilet. A natty little blue cloth suit received a touch of smartness from a high collar of orange panne, a turnover cravat of white muslin and an orange knotted crepe de chine tie. A wide belt of blue kid finished the waist. A three-cornered blue beaver hat worn with this jaunty suit had a simple cockade of iridescent blue, green and orange taffeta, in the Directoire style. Speaking of the latter, the Directoire coat has been revived as one of the most popular modes. The graceful line given by the cutaway skirts and the soft fluffy frills of lace in the sleeves, the jaunty little vest, which is the making of this century, all go toward making it a most charming model. A beauty in peach pink for a visiting gown is of French camel's hair cloth or silk abetina effects.

There is a panel at the back with effect continued on the attached skirt, with a little under plait at the sides. The velvet cape collar of an indescribable deep shade of pink is finished with a cream moire silk band and moire rosettes having Chinese gilt buttons in the centres. The coat fronts do not meet by four inches, showing a vest of Chinese embroidery in delicate colors on cretonne moire. Loops of cord and gilt buttons trim the fronts in groups and on the sleeves. The gauntlet cuffs are of velvet and moire and have double wrist ruffles of margerie lace. The strap belt of the cloth has brass eyelets and buckles. Hardly any of the smart costumes this season are without a touch of gilt, either in buttons, braids or embroidery, and all have velvet in combination, of self tone or contrasting color. In this gilt treatment of embroidery and braids, two or three shades of gold are often used together, usually a pale greenish-white, burnt umber and a yellow gold. The blending is very French, especially when trimming any shade of blue.

THE shoulderette will play a very prominent part in the styles of the season, and made in lace or in a delicious combination of silk and chiffon it will be worn by the virtuous of fashion on dressy gowns. Its virtues are that it makes the shoulder seem broader, giving the shape which is now considered a necessity. All shoulders having such a droop can not possibly tell where the arm-hole is, or was, or expects to be. A splendid illustration of this is given in a beautiful golden brown velvet which Mrs. Philip Lydig is wearing this season. The sleeves in their en-

ending in a silk tassel. From the waist line comes another set pointing upward, and the deep-pointed belt is also of the Oriental bands. Upon the full sleeve cap there are five straps, each having a silk tassel, which falls over the fluffy elbow puff of Cluny lace. The skirt is of a new fashion, a hip yoke being simulated with the lace, beneath which the sicilienne is put away and a backing of chiffon provided. A shirred flounce is applied at the knee, rounding up prettily in the back. A broad band of lace serves as a heading, and a similar band is used above the hem.

FOR a young girl, the charming gown pictured is of white crepe de Chine and chiffon, showing a multitude of what are known as nun's folds on waist and skirt and a novel trimming of thick white silk cord. The waist has a round shirred yoke of crepe de Chine outlined with a knotted scarf of chiffon reaching to the waist line. From it the blouse, made in nun's folds of crepe de Chine, falls over a belt of the thick cord. The skirt, composed of an infinite number of soft folds, has a full flounce outlined with the cord, which also circles the hips and forms a long apron effect in front. The elbow sleeves show large inset puffs of accordion-plaited chiffon.

THE recently imported frock illustrated has as a foundation an exquisitely fine piece of black Chantilly having an orchid design well defined on the net. Strappings of black silk lousine in nun's folds—pils de religieuses, as they term them in Paris—are applied on the skirt and sleeves at intervals and there is a voice of coarse guipure lace which extends to form a berth, smart little bowknots of shirred and wired black satin ribbon being applied on the berth. The skirt has its odd garniture in the hip yoke of black lousine, which extends in broad straps to the hem of the gown, and on these straps the ribbon bowknots are also applied with telling effect.

Evening Gowns for the Christmas Eve Receptions—White Chiffon and Silk Cords for the Debutante—Brown Spangles and Cream Colored Net for the Young Matron—Stately Creations of Moleskin, Gold Braid and Lace for the Dowager—Peach-Hued Sicilienne and Bulgarian Embroidery Make a Novel Frock—Black Chantilly in an Orchid Design Over Net Is an Attractive Combination—Many Stunning Ideas for the Holiday Season.

THE new stocks and belts possess the distinguishing characteristic of being novel. They are really different from any ever seen before, and marvelous to relate, less expensive than one would imagine. The most fashionable belts just at the moment are made of skin of one kind or another. The very wide suede belt crushed around the figure, fastened with a big leather buckle in front, is "the one best belt" and comes in a variety of colors to match any gown or waist. A spectacular belt is the one of calfskin with the hair left on. It is about four inches wide and fastens with a round brass buckle. A calfskin stock was covered with the reddish brown hair to match and fastened with a small brass buckle similar to the belt. A crushable belt is of plaid, dyed in red, green, brown and black. Stocks are departing from their simplicity and show the oddest features. Many are partly of fur. Some of silk have velvet straps thathook in front. The novelty of the hour is to have hair belt and stock the same, no matter what the material.

The gauntlet which is thrown down this season is in a most peaceful fashion, for gauntlet gloves are to be with us again. Lace is responsible for this new fad, and she has had made for her a glove which bids fair to be the dressy hand-covering of the season. It is lined with a contrasting color. A white glove has a violet or green lining, and the turned-down cuff does not in the least resemble the recent ugly fashion of leaving unfastened and hanging an ordinary glove. The old-fashioned gold glove button connected with a thin gold chain is again worn, but like all the new-old styles, it is elaborated almost out of recognition. The neck ruffling of other days is basted in our collars once more, but it looks prim and stiff unless used as a finishing touch to a lace or fancy collar.

FOR older women three stunning Christmas Ideas, showing an elaboration of lace, gold braid and moleskin, are pictured. One of these shows the new girl in an exaggerated form, since it extends from just beneath the berth to well down over the hips. In this instance there is a yoke of round one, of point d'Alencon, the pieces being joined together with very fine gold lace which also appears on the skirt. Little handkerchief pieces of the cloth are edged with the gold lace and plaited to form a berth, bands of moleskin forming a heading.

On the skirt a double band of lace, with diamond-shaped medallions at intervals, are lace which also appears on the skirt. The skirt is entirely covered with a broad band of moleskin, this fur also being used to edge the sleeve drapery, which falls over a tight-fitting cuff of very fine gold lace braid, and also a soft drill of white lace falls over the hand in a quaint and pretty fashion.

Of course, all of this is arranged over a perfectly fitted princess lining, and it takes the art of a master hand to cut and fit this so that the draped and swished and wrinkled effect of the cloth is in no wise bulky or clumsy. Quite the contrary, the effect produced is one of airy grace and lightness; but this is a style which the buxom belle would do well to test severely alone.

directly are charming, very full at the elbow, the regular 1830 fashion, with a perfect arrangement of cream embroidered mull for an undersleeve where the velvet left off. Several rows of shirring droop over the shoulder line and effectively conceal every vestige of a seam which joins the sleeve to the gown. One of the eccentricities of this year is to put deep tight cuffs of lingerie materials inside the voluminous sleeve of a blouse.

It is safe to say that sleeves have reached a high water mark in the variety of design and form and the combination of materials. A common remark is that "sleeves look as if made from anything found in the scrap bag because the gown material ran short." Nearly all the arms are draped with plaids and festoons of filmy fabrics and loaded with hand-embroidery, applied lace, scalloped edges, stripe of fur and fancy buttons. Judging from the majority of sleeves, voluminous ones are in the lead, but there are small ones, almost tight fitting from wrist to shoulder. There is one distinct feature in all sleeves. The droop near the hand is entirely eliminated. Every effort is made to push the drapery up to the elbow.

All cuffs are not high, but all sleeves avoid the wrist droop, and to accomplish this the sleeve is gathered and shirred up toward the elbow to be snug-fitting. This is done on a number of cloth jackets, and the effect is similar to that of a man's peg-top trousers. Whatever this cuff is, it is not plain, and on most of them it has edges outlined with frills of lace, etc. These ruffles are basted in everything except a

sub shirt waist, and even this statement must be qualified, for many women put them in these when the fabric is nice enough. A Delft blue linen blouse to be worn all winter has little double plaiting of stiff lawn, lace edged, basted in after it comes from the laundry.

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NOVEL Gowns Worn by Miss Gerry and Mrs. Phil Lydig—Other Attractive Costumes Seen at a Waldorf-Astoria Recital Last Week—A Shoulderette of Lace or of Silk and Chiffon Is Something Really New—Latest Styles in Sleeves—Renewal of the High Stock—New Belts and Gloves—Gauntlets Will Be the Rage.

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THE BEST WAY TO POP THE QUESTION.

EDITED BY MARGARET HUBBARD AYER.

\$10 FOR THE BEST LETTER from a Woman on the Least Embarrassing Way for a Girl to Pop the Question During Leap Year

\$10 FOR THE BEST LETTER from a Man Giving Directions How to Pop the Question Most Convincingly

\$5 FOR THE BEST LETTER from Man or Woman on the Most Delicate Way of Refusing an Offer of Marriage

Address Letters in This Contest to "Margaret Hubbard Ayer, Evening World, New York City."

NOW comes the time when the domestic lords of creation must take ideas from their erstwhile meek vassals, the ladies. Sweethearts, sisters, wives, and maybe mothers, are going to teach the men the proper thing to do and say on the most important occasion that ever arrives in their lives, from the cradle to the grave.

Only one year out of every four do the ladies have this opportunity. That they will make the most of it is a foregone conclusion. The very art of popping the question will be taught both by precept and by example, till the dull men, the bashful men, and even the laggards, will have no excuse for delaying a delicate proposal of matrimony on the ground that they "don't know how to do it."

state the case in the fewest words possible. You won't have to talk very long, for she will either head you off promptly or say "yes" equally quickly.

Dear Miss Ayer: I am glad to see that a contest has been started to find out the best way of popping the question. For I certainly mean to try it. The young man that keeps company with me never will get to the point unless I lend him a helping hand. Now I see him often in the morning when he goes down town and he's always in a good temper then. So I'm going to walk along with him and tease him into saying how much he thinks of me. Then I shall give him a loving look and ask him whether he wouldn't rather think of me as his wife, and I have reason to believe he won't say "no." R. S.

me, but I cannot get up courage enough to ask her to marry me for fear a refusal on her part would cost me her friendship, which is what I treasure most in this life. Now, if that young lady would just say, "Robert, I am willing to be your wife," she would make me her slave for life. ROBERT TAYLOR.

How One Girl Will Propose. Dear Miss Ayer: I have always been a very timid man as far as ladies were concerned, being handicapped by the knowledge of a very unprepossessing exterior. Now, I have admired a lady for several years and she does not seem to notice me. I have always been a very timid man as far as ladies were concerned, being handicapped by the knowledge of a very unprepossessing exterior. Now, I have admired a lady for several years and she does not seem to notice me.

LETTERS, QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

"Open Season" for Shoplifters.

To the Editor of The Evening World: This is the "open season" for shoplifters. Scarcely a day passes that some one (a member of my own sex usually, I regret to say) does not commit a petty theft in some large store. I suggest (two things for this: First—Let goods be protected by a glass case and not let loose on counters, a temptation to all weak-conscience women. Second—Let storekeepers punish every case of theft by dragging offenders into open court and prosecuting every case to the limit of the law. They are too lenient, and thieves rely on such leniency to dare thefts from which they would shrink were there less peril of public shame. MRS. J. L. WARUM.

mediator or arbitrator. A few Sundays ago a speaker announced that if any one was in search of employment he should call at the Y. M. C. A. Building immediately after the meeting, were it possible for such a call to sound from the pulpit of New York each Sunday there certainly would be a change for the better in the breach which exists in a very small degree between the idle poor and idle rich of our great metropolis. CHARLES CARROLL BROOKS.

Excuse! The Editor of The Evening World: The gas octopus has again commenced to bleed the public. The bills increase at a rate that is a hardship to many. Bills in some instances have jumped 20 per cent., notwithstanding that there has been no extra service demanded of the meters by the users thereof. It does no good to protest against this. The only answer to objections is that "You certainly must have burned the gas, as the meter is all right." As the Legis-

ture is about to convene in regular session two different games. Which is right? LOUIS REIK.

"Rugby" football is the sort in vogue among college teams. It is played with an oval pigskin ball. "Association" football is played with a round ball, and the game is governed by a different set of rules.

The Former Is the English and the Latter the American Term.

To the Editor of The Evening World: What is the difference between a railway and a railroad? H. P. Plainfield, N. J.

"It Is I" Is Correct.

To the Editor of The Evening World: A enter the house and is asked: "Who is there?" A answers: "It is I." Now B says should answer "I am." Which is correct and why? A. B. C. Trenton, N. J.

Yes! New Year and the Following Christmas.

To the Editor of The Evening World: Do Christmas and New Year fall in the same year? "Rugby" Vs. "Association" Football. To the Editor of The Evening World: A says Rugby is the same as football. B thinks differently and says they are

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